

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-11, 13-19, and 21-26 are pending. Claims 7, 12, and 20 have been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 1, 8, 11, 14, 16, 21, and 23 have been amended. New claims 24-26 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gilmore (US 4,222,671).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 11, and 16 are novel and patentable over Gilmore because, for instance, Gilmore does not teach or suggest that the plurality of first cavities comprise at least one first cavity having a first surface turn on the first mating surface to direct flow to turn at an angle along the first surface turn, and wherein the plurality of second cavities comprise at least one second cavity having a second surface turn on the second mating surface to direct flow to turn at an angle along the second surface turn.

Examples of a surface turns 50, 52 are shown in Figures 2 and 4. As discussed at paragraph [0016]: "The depth turns 36, alone or in combination with the surface turns 50, 52, generate aggressive pulsations from periodic size changes of the mixing flow path and variation in flow direction to provide excellent mixing results with a minimum number of turns." The surface turns 50, 52 in the embodiment shown are about 90°, as further recited in dependent claims 8, 21, and 23.

The Examiner cites Gilmore at Fig. 4 for allegedly showing a surface turn. Fig. 4 does not show any surface turns, since the openings at the mating surfaces are all linear. Gilmore at column 7, line 52 discloses a 90° angle between the grooves 46 of plate 40 and the grooves 45 of plate 42. That is not an angle of a surface turn, but represents a perpendicular orientation of surface grooves of the two mating surfaces.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1, 11, and 16, and dependent claims 5, 6, 8-10, 13-15, 17-19, and 21-26, are novel and patentable over Gilmore.

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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